[XXXVth Year.] THE [No. 1717.]

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1779.

the MARYLAND GAZETTE.

NUMBER XIX.

THE advantages are many which have resulted from the expedition of our ally to the coast of the continent this season. The movement has been felt, not in the state of Georgia only, but the most remote distance. From the first arrival of the Count, fear and apprehension spread themselves on the wings of every pulse of air. The cannon discharged in that state were heard every post of the enemy to the northward. Figuratively, they received a shock, and were made tremble and collect themselves, as when a knight romance, coming to a castle or a city, commands horn to be sounded, and the dwarfs scamper the battlements. The shock was felt at New-York, and in Rhode-Island especially. The town Newport, which had before cost us two campaigns, one under general Spencer, and one under general Sullivan, in a fruitless attempt to reduce, was now evacuated. It was not to be denied by the enemy that the Count should have in his power to attack the two posts of New-York and Rhode-Island separately. Their junction was necessary, in order to defend themselves; and what general Spencer, with a formidable body of militia, had it not in his power to effect; and general Sullivan, with a body of the best continental troops, did not find it possible to accomplish; and general Gates, through the whole of this season, thought it not prudent to attempt, has now been done by the approach of the Count to the coast of this continent. It has been done though he has remained in Georgia.

At New-York the enemy were in continual trepidation. The armed vessels have been recalled in the harbour to assist, with the fort, and the batteries on the wharfs, to defend the city. From this circumstance, our merchantmen from the several ports, have been at liberty to pass through the seas in safety. In the mean time the grand army of the enemy have been under the necessity of relinquishing the campaign which they had projected, and in which they had advanced considerably, having established several posts upon the North river. The affair of Stoney-point, and the arrival of the Count, obliged them to fall back, and to reside, like a broken wave, on the shores of the York-Island. It has been owing to the seasonable, though distant movement of our ally, that many settlements of New-York, Connecticut and Jersey, have been safe from the ravage of the enemy. It is true our army was at hand to repress their attack; but in the circling manœuvres and fluctuating movements of the war, seeking and avoiding an engagement, the intermediate ground is overrun, and the miserable inhabitants suffer almost as much from the unavoidable company of their friends, as from the hostile presence of their enemies. Besides, if an enemy is repulsed, it is with the loss of brave men, even to those who are victorious. Our army, weakened by the detachment of a considerable body of our troops to the southward, under general Sullivan, were not, for some months, in full force to receive the enemy. It has been happy, that, in these circumstances, the British troops have been under the necessity of falling back to the environs of New-York, to defend themselves against the expected blockade of the count d'Estaing on the one side, and of our army on the other. That the above was the case will appear from a survey of the circumstances; and I find it to be observed by a gentleman who writes from Elizabeth-town, New-Jersey, an extract of whose letter has appeared in the gazette of that state. "The count d'Estaing, says he, although he has not been successful at Savannah, yet has made a most powerful diversion in our favour, by keeping the British mercenaries at New-York and its dependencies, with a train of tories and refugees constantly employed in throwing up various works, and sinking vessels in the Narrows and at the Hook, they living in daily expectation of his arrival there two months past; but the vessels which they sunk have chiefly drifted away with the current." In Georgia, the war, on the part of the enemy, in consequence of the arrival of the Count, has been changed from offensive to defensive. The reinforcement intended for that state, has been retained on Rhode-Island and at New-York; for while the Count was master of the seas, no reinforcement could be sent thither. If it had arrived, it would have been unequal to the task of instituting a campaign against the combined and superior force under general Lincoln, and the Count, in those parts. We may justly reckon it the consequence of the movement of our ally to this quarter, that the enemy, confined to Savannah, have not been able to make their way once more to the walls of Charles-town, and with repeated devastation of the country through which they might propose to pass. The campaign in Georgia has been crushed, and the enemy have thought themselves happy that they have been able to defend themselves. They have not been able to assist their allies, the Creek Indians, who have been subdued by general Williamson, in his expedition to the frontier settlements. It was pleasant enough to see the vindictive Prevost, and the more active colonel Maitland, with the troops under their command, meditating incursion, depredation and conquest, but obliged to sit down in the town of Savannah, with watching, with labour, and with the spectacle of the vessels falling into our hands, which were intended for their assistance in money, cloathing, and other necessaries. Many vessels were captivated, and the military chest itself, on board the Experiment, was a considerable prize, and must have been a radical injury to their future operations. The prisoners we have taken, both on board the vessels, and on the land, have been a compensation for the trouble the enemy have given us, and will considerably reduce their force in that quarter. In Ogechee river, particularly, five armed vessels, having taken shelter from the count d'Estaing, and having the remaining part of the Sunbury garrison on board, officers and privates, one hundred and forty-one in all, have fallen into our hands, by the address of colonel White of that state.

That the assault on Savannah did not succeed, has been owing "to the strength of the enemy in that garrison; to the unavoidable delay, on our part, in bringing up proper cannon and mortars from the fleet, which took up many days, and was attended with inconceivable difficulties, on account of the distance of the shipping, and a series of tempestuous weather; to the activity of colonel Maitland in throwing up works, so that, having as it were, burrowed his troops in the sand, the tops of their tents being not more than on a level with the parapets, they were safe from the cannonade. It was farther owing to the enemy having discovered, by some means, the approach of our columns a full hour before it was possible for them to reach their respective stations; by which they had an opportunity of pouring upon their assailants such a heavy and incessant front, flank, and cross fire, as no troops whatever could have sustained without being disordered, and occasioned the order for discontinuing the assault, even while the brave French troops had gained one of the enemy's works, and our as brave troops another" *.

I am happy to find that the inhabitants of the southern states, and even those of Georgia, whose wishes were warmest in the assault of the town of Savannah, whose disappointment was greatest in the event of it, and who were most likely to repine and be dissatisfied with the counsels and conduct of those engaged in it, are, nevertheless, fully composed in their minds, and perfectly persuaded that all has been done that could be done in that enterprise. This is indeed a full evidence of it; for it is natural for men, when they are disappointed in any of their expectations, to seek for the causes, not in things, but in persons. It is easy to say that it has been owing to the bad counsel or the bad conduct of this or that man; but it requires general observation to perceive how much arises from the nature of the circumstances, which the wit of man could not have managed otherwise. Unless the wisdom of a measure is incontestably clear and striking, if it is unfortunate it will be said to have been imprudent. Unless the ability and spirit with which it may have been conducted is obvious to all, and forces approbation, it will in some instances be called in question. I am therefore happy to find that the most perfect approbation is given by every mouth, to the conduct both of our ally and of our own troops in their operations in the state of Georgia. A gentleman, an inhabitant of that state, but now in Charles-town, writes to his friend in Philadelphia to the following purpose: "Our allies have done every thing in their power for the recovery of this country, but we cannot expect them to perform impossibilities. On all occasions the count d'Estaing shewed himself a brave man, and acted in every respect consistent with the dignity of his character, as a nobleman of a distinguished family, and as a gentleman whose best wishes were most ardent for the good and protection of the United States. He remained with us much longer than he at first proposed, and as he was in want of many things, absolutely necessary for his army, it appeared evident to me that he was obliged to leave us. Nothing would have given him greater pleasure than to have gathered laurels on these sandy plains, and in my opinion it would have been the case if the American army had been more numerous. In my former letters I have hinted to you how highly general Lincoln is esteemed for his prudence and merit, and that if he had been properly supported with men, since he has been on this command, he would long ago have taken Prevost and all his plundering adventurers. You are sensible of the difficulties an officer must labour under whose army is principally composed of militia, which are continually going and coming, and very averse to military discipline. What man can do he has done, and the anxiety he has endured in this service is much greater than I can describe."

I collect these testimonies of my countrymen with pleasure, because it is an evidence of our good sense and gratitude, and it must be an encouragement to our allies, and to our own officers to labour for a people, whose approbation is not fixed, like that of an ignorant and undiscerning multitude, merely on good fortune, but who are capable of distinguishing what is praise-worthy, even though it is not crowned with every advantage of success. I shall only add, as an evidence of this, that acknowledgment which we find in the message from the president, &c. of Pennsylvania, to the representatives, &c. in general assembly met, and which is as follows: "The seasonable and generous assistance of the count d'Estaing, and the gallant force under his command, though not attended with all the success which our sanguine expectations suggested, may justly be reckoned among the happy events of the year, as it has disconcerted the plans of the enemy, been attended with success in capturing many of their vessels, and is, in every respect, a fresh proof of the magnanimity and attention of our allies, which will justly endear them to every lover of his country." These acknowledgments, and this general sense of America, must strike the minds of the enemy with discouragement; for, no doubt, they had hoped much from that disposition to repine and find fault, which springs up in the minds of men after an unsuccessful enterprise. They will now see that not the least disposition of this kind exists amongst us. Indeed there is no reason that it should exist. The expedition, notwithstanding our repulse, must upon the whole be accounted fortunate. If we could put it in the power of the enemy to chuse, whether matters should be as they now are, or that the Count had not arrived at all, certainly they would chuse to have been without his company. What is the small honour of having defended themselves in the town of Savannah, to the hope which they had entertained of over-running half the southern settlements, by means of reinforcements thrown in to the troops in Georgia; and at the same time of making a vigorous campaign with their main army to the northward. It is their part to push their operations. It is our part to impede them. They have not pushed their operations. We have impeded them. They are therefore disappointed, not we. We have done all that ought to have been expected to be done. The event will discover that we are successful. In the whole history of this war, our enemy will assign no circumstance more than the arrival of the count d'Estaing in Georgia.

* *Observations in the Maryland journal communicated from Charles-town.*

The Count himself has personally shewn the most undaunted courage, and the most ardent zeal in our service. If he has not accomplished all that his good-will had prompted him to wish to accomplish, yet he has left behind him the firmest persuasion, in the mind of every American, that he is anxiously disposed to promote the great object of the alliance, our independence; and that he will endeavour to be yet more essentially useful to us, whether by striking a blow in the West-Indies, or by returning to the continent in a proper season.

THE HONEST POLITICIAN.

BOSTON, *Nov.* 22.

WE hear that all continental troops have orders to repair to head-quarters—Those who were under general Gates at Rhode-Island, left that place last week.

By captain Adams, the beginning of this week from Martinico, we are informed, that the day before he sailed several vessels arrived there from France, and that it was reported a smart naval engagement had taken place in the channel of England, between the combined fleets of France and Spain, and the English fleet, in which the latter, were very roughly handled.

TRENTON, *Nov.* 17.

A gentleman from Elizabeth-town informs, that the enemy, to the number of 8000, have embarked, and part of them sailed, supposed to be bound to South-Carolina, or the West-Indies.

PHILADELPHIA, *Nov.* 20.

Last Wednesday an entertainment was given by congress to the minister plenipotentiary of France, at which were present by invitation several foreigners of distinction, and gentlemen of public character.

In CONGRESS *Nov.* 17, 1779.

According to order the honourable the chevalier de la Luzerne, minister plenipotentiary of his Most Christian Majesty, was introduced to an audience by Mr. Mathews and Mr. Morris, the two members for that purpose appointed, and being seated in his chair; the secretary of the embassy, delivered to the president a letter from his Most Christian Majesty, directed on the outside, "To our very dear great friends and allies, the president and members of the general congress of the United states of North-America;" and which is in the following words:

Very dear, Great Friends and Allies,

The bad state of health of the Sieur Gerard, our minister plenipotentiary to you, having laid him under the necessity of applying for a recal, we have made choice of the chevalier de la Luzerne, a colonel in our service, to supply his place. We have no doubt but he will be agreeable to you and that you will repose entire confidence in him. We pray you to give full credit to all he shall say to you on our behalf, especially when he shall assure you of the sincerity of our wishes for your prosperity, as well as of the constancy of our affection, and of our friendship for the United states in general, and for each one of them in particular. We pray God to keep you, our very dear, great friends and allies, in his holy protection.

Done at Versailles, the 31st May 1779.

Your good friend and ally,

(Signed) LOUIS.

(Underneath) DE VERGENNES.

The minister was then announced to the house; whereupon he arose and addressed congress, in a speech, which when he had finished the secretary delivered in writing to the president, and is as follows:

GENTLEMEN,

The wisdom and courage which have founded your republic, the prudence which presides over your deliberations, your firmness in execution, the skill and valour displayed by your generals and soldiers, during the course of the war, have attracted the admiration and regard of the whole world. The king my master was the first to acknowledge a liberty acquired midst so many perils and with so much glory. Since treaties dictated by moderation have fixed upon a permanent base the union of France with the American republic, his majesty's whole conduct must have demonstrated how dearly he tenders your prosperity, and his firm resolution to maintain your independence by every means in his power. The events which have successively unfolded themselves shew the wisdom of those measures. A powerful ally hath acknowledged the justice of those motives which had compelled the king to take arms, and we may reasonably hope for the most solid success, from the operations of the united fleets. The naval force of the enemy, have been diverted from your continent. Compelled to flee to the defence of their own possessions, all their efforts have been too feeble to prevent our troops from conquering a considerable part. The other British islands feared the same lot, when the French general stopped the current of his success, to seek new dangers here. In conforming to his majesty's intentions, he has complied with his own inclinations, the desires of the French, and the request of the Americans, who invited him to join his arms to those of your republic. Events have not completely answered his courage and his efforts, but his blood and that of my countrymen, shed in a cause so dear to us, hath cemented the base on which the alliance is founded, and impressed on it a character as indelible as are all those by which it is already consecrated.

That alliance, gentlemen, becomes daily more indissoluble, and the benefits which the two nations derive from it have given it the most perfect consistence. The relations of commerce between the subjects of the king my master, and the inhabitants of the Thirteen United States, continually multiply; and we may already perceive, in spite of those obstacles which embarrass the reciprocal communication, how natural it is, how advantageous it will be to the two nations and all who participate in it, and how much the monopolizing spirit, the jealous attention and prohibitory edicts of the enemy to your freedom, have been prejudicial to your happiness.

It is under these circumstances, gentlemen, that the king my master, hath been pleased to appoint me his minister plenipotentiary to you. You have seen in the letter which I have just now the honour to deliver from him, fresh assurances of his friendship. I consider as the happiest circumstance of my life, a mission in the course of which I am certain of fulfilling my duty when I labour for your prosperity; and I felicitate myself upon being sent to a nation whose interests are so intimately blended with our own, that I can be useful neither to France nor the American republic, without rendering myself agreeable both to the one and to the other.

It was certainly desireable that the affairs with which I am charged, had remained in the hands of that enlightened minister whom I succeed; and whose health compels him to return to France. I have not his abilities, but like him, I have an unbounded zeal for the welfare and success of the common cause; like him I am directed to concur in every thing which can be useful or agreeable to your republic. I have the same attachment to the people you, gentlemen, represent, and the same admiration of their conduct. I have the most fervent wish to give you proofs of it, and I hope by these different titles to merit your confidence and your esteem.

LE CHE DE LA LUZERNE.

To which the president returned the following answer.

SIR,

The early attention of our good friend and ally to these United States is gratefully felt by all their virtuous citizens; and we should be unfaithful representatives if we did not warmly acknowledge every instance of his regard, and take every opportunity of expressing the attachment of our constituents to treaties formed upon the purest principles.

His Most Christian Majesty, in rendering himself protector of the rights of mankind, became intitled to assistance from the friends of man. His title could not but be recognized by a monarch whose diadem is adorned with equity and truth: that monarch by joining his arms to those of our great ally hath given a fatal blow to the common enemy; and from the justness of the motives which unite the combined fleets, we expect the most solid benefits will crown their operations; nor can we doubt that other powers will rejoice to see that haughty nation humbled in proportion as they have been insulted by her presumptuous arrogance.

We well know, and all the world must acknowledge the moderation and friendship of the Most Christian King, in neglecting conquests which courted his acceptance for the benevolent pleasure of succouring his allies. In this as in every other instance, we perceive his strict adherence to the principles of our defensive alliance. We are sensible of the zeal of the French general, in executing his majesty's orders: we esteem his courage, we lament his wounds, and we respect that generous valour which hath led your countrymen to contend with ours in the same common cause, in the same field of glory. A noble emulation which hath poured out the blood of the two nations, and mingled it together as a sacred pledge of perpetual union.

The consequences which have followed from the appearance of the French fleet upon our coasts, particularly by disconcerting the enemy's plans of operation, and destroying a considerable part of their naval force, demonstrate the wisdom of the measure. That they have not been more beneficial, is to be attributed to those accidents which in the hand of Omnipotence determine all human events; but our disappointment is compensated by reflecting on the perfect harmony that subsisted between the generals and the troops of the two nations.

The prosperous course of this campaign, [illegible] a pleasing hope that the moment of peace [illegible] soon arrive, when the reciprocation of mutual good offices shall amply recompence our mutual labours and cares; and we doubt not, but that moment the commerce between the [illegible] nations, now struggling under great [illegible] vances, will shoot forth with vigour and [illegible] tage, and happily demonstrate the injuries [illegible] once suffered from the restraints of our [illegible]

While we lament, sir, the loss of your [illegible] predecessor, we are led from your personal character to the pleasing expectation that you will [illegible] that confidence and esteem which he [illegible] They are due to the servant of our [illegible] we are happy in his choice, and be [illegible] thoroughly convinced of the intimate connection between the interests and views of the allied nations, [illegible] cannot but persuade ourselves that the more attentively you shall perform your duty to your sovereign, and the more sedulously you [illegible] guard and promote the welfare of your [illegible] the more agreeable and respectable you will render yourself to the citizens of America.

The secretary of congress delivered to the [illegible] pister a copy of the foregoing reply dated in congress, November 17, 1779, and signed by Huntington, president. Whereupon the minister withdrew, and was conducted home, in the manner in which he was brought to the house.

Extracts from the minutes,

CHARLES THOMSON, Sec.

A letter has been received by the executive council and house of assembly of this state, from a convention of commissioners for five states assembled at Hartford, proposing that a convention of commissioners from all the states, as far southward as Virginia inclusive, do meet at Philadelphia on the first Wednesday on January next, to settle a limitation of prices, the proposal has been approved, and on Monday next commissioners will be appointed for that purpose.

In CONGRESS, Oct. 30, 1779.

RESOLVED,

THAT the managers be directed to make sale of the tickets of the third class of the lottery of the United States without delay: that the drawing thereof commence the first day of March next, and be compleated as soon as may be; and that the tickets then unsold be the property of, at the risk of the said states.

Lottery-Office, November 2, 1779.

IN consequence of the above resolve the managers give this public notice, that on the first day of March next the drawing of the lottery will commence at the old city vendue store, and be continued from day to day with all possible expedition until finished. Such persons therefore as choose to become purchasers are to apply before said date, at the different offices throughout the United States.

The printers are requested to publish the above and continue it, till the first of March next, the time of drawing.

In CONGRESS, November 12, 1779.

RESOLVED,

THAT regimental pay-masters not being of the rank of captains, quarter-masters and assistants, be entitled to receive the same subsistence money as is allowed to captains by the act of congress, of the eighteenth of August last, the subsistence to commence on that day.

Extracts from the minutes,

CHARLES THOMSON, Sec.

Nov. 23. Last Sunday returned from a cruize the privateer sloop Comet, captain Dehart, and brought with him the express boat from St. Augustine, mentioned in our paper of the 16th instant.

Several ships of force belonging to [illegible] fleet, lately arrived in Chesapeake bay, for the purpose of landing a few [illegible] men, and taking in provisions; [illegible] being completed, they are immediately to proceed for their station in the West-Indies.

We are well informed, that on Thursday last, when the bill depending before the general assembly of this state, for the gradual abolition of slavery, was ordered to be engrossed for the third reading, there were only eight votes against the bill, and that two of the members, who appeared against it, afterwards explained their vote by alleging they thought the age of 28 years for the entire freedom of the young blacks hereafter born, was unreasonably long.

a court of oyer and terminer held at York-Town, for the county of York, commencing the 12th of October inst. before the honourable Thomas M'Kean and William Augustus Atlee, Esquires; Nathaniel Patton and Henry Trout were convicted and condemned to be hanged for passing counterfeit 30 dollar bills of continental money, of the emissions of 22d July 1776, knowing it to be counterfeit: George Fletcher was convicted and sentenced to death for the murder of Christian Baughman: James Boyd was convicted and sentenced to death for robbing Thomas Stevenson on the highway: and Thomas Bedley was convicted and sentenced to death for a burglary in the house of John Nolan, in York-Town.

Philip Schwartz was ordered to be sent to the gaol of Philadelphia county, to be tried for giving intelligence to the enemy at the Crooked Billet, &c.

George Werle, Christian Bixler, Michael Werle and Christian Hooper, were tried and convicted of passing counterfeit 40 dollar bills of the emission made by congress on the 11th of April 1778, and praying the benefit of clergy, were burnt in the brawn of the left thumb with the letter T, and ordered to be commited to gaol without bail or mainprize, till the general election of representatives for this state in the year 1780.

WILLIAMSBURG, *Nov.* 20.

Charles Knight and Nathaniel Abney of Amelia, were lately taken together with a number of implements for making printing types, in order to counterfeit our treasury notes, and were yesterday committed to the public gaol in this city.

On Saturday last, Andrew Wilson, alias John Williams, alias John Gordon (who enlisted three times and deserted as often) was shot at the barracks, near this city, agreeable to his sentence.

ANNAPOLIS, *December* 3.

By his Excellency THOMAS SIM LEE, Esq; GOVERNOR OF MARYLAND,

A PROCLAMATION.

WITH the advice of the Council I do hereby appoint Thursday the ninth of this instant December, to be observed throughout this State, as a day of public THANKSGIVING and PRAYER, agreeable to the recommendation of Congress of the fourteenth of October last.

Given at Annapolis this third day of December, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy-nine.

THO. SIM LEE.

By his Excellency's command,
THOMAS JOHNSON, jun. secr.

GOD SAVE THE STATE.

In CONGRESS, *November* 19, 1779.

WHEREAS the fluctuating state of prices not only causes inequality and injustice in private dealings, and in furnishing the public supplies from the several states, but renders it impracticable to make the proper estimates for future expences, and to fix equitable salaries for those employed in the service of the United States; and whereas the estimates according to which the requisitions for the taxes of the succeeding year have been made by the resolution of the 6th of October, have been formed on the principle that the prices of commodities necessary for the public use would not exceed twenty fold of the former prices, and should they rise above that rate, the taxes must be accordingly increased, but should they fall below it, the surplus of the sum raised may be applied to the sinking fund, therefore,

RESOLVED, That it be earnestly recommended to the several states forthwith to enact laws for establishing and carrying into execution a general limitation of prices throughout their respective jurisdictions, on the following principles, and to commence in their operation from the first day of February next.

Articles of domestic produce, farming and common labour, the wages of tradesmen and mechanics, water and land carriage, not to exceed twenty fold of the price current through the various seasons of the year 1774.

Articles imported from foreign parts to be in due proportion with labour and the articles as above stated, making a proper allowance for freight, insurance, and other charges—salt and military stores, whether of home manufacture or imported from abroad, to be excepted from the limitation of price.

RESOLVED, That it be recommended to the several states, to enact strict laws against engrossing and withholding; and to take the necessary measures for having the same carried into full execution.

RESOLVED, That all officers and agents employed in making purchases for the United States, be directed to conform strictly to all regulations that are or may be established by the several states.

That accounts be kept and returns made by all persons employed to make purchases in behalf of the United states, or to hire vessels, carriages, or men, for the services of the same, of the prices by them respectively given in such states, as shall not, before the first day of February, 1780, pass laws for the limitation of prices agreeable to the recommendation contained in the foregoing resolutions, to the intent that such state as shall have neglected to pass laws for the purposes aforesaid, may respectively be charged in the public accounts with the aggregate accounts of the difference of prices paid from and after the said first day of February, 1780, in such states, and those in which such laws may have been enacted.

Extract from the minutes,
(Copy) CHARLES THOMSON, sec.

*** *Persons subscribing for the Maryland Gazette after this day, to pay Ten pounds per annum.*

December 2, 1779.

FOR SALE,

FOUR hundred and twenty acres of LAND, it being one undivided tenth part of that valuable tract of land called Salisbury-Plains, containing 4200 acres, lying in Washington county, near Hagar's-Town, well known for its fertility of soil, abounds with timber and lime-stone; a good title will be given, having purchased of the contending parties. Any person inclinable to purchase may know the terms, by applying to the subscriber, now at Annapolis.

WILLIAM BAYLY, jun.

N. B. I have a healthy young negro wench for sale. 10 or 24 Dollars W. B.

ONE HUNDRED and SIXTY DOLLARS REWARD.

Annapolis, October 16, 1779.

STRAYED or stolen from the subscriber, on Wednesday the 6th of October instant, a dark bay MARE, four years old last spring, branded with an F and a B, one hind foot white, a small blaze down the face in the form of a half moon at the top, one of her fore hoofs split, fifteen hands high, shod all round, paces and trots. Whoever will bring the said mare home to the subscriber in Annapolis, or Thomas Jones, blacksmith in Baltimore, shall receive 100 dollars reward, if only strayed away, but if stolen 160 dollars for the mare and thief.

10 8/9

JOHN TOWNSLEY, Coppersmith.

From the PENNSYLVANIA GAZETTE.

NUMBER XI.

WHEN we call that treaty equal into which we have entered with the court of France, we mean to say that no advantage has been taken of our situation as an invaded and depressed people; but that every article is just such as it would have been had we placed ourselves at a distance of an hundred years since, when, to use the language of the sieur Gerard to our commissioners at Paris, we should be "fully established." In this treaty it might have been reasonably demanded of us that we should concede some advantages, as our necessity was pressing, and our very existence was at stake. Unsupported during one more campaign we might have been reduced to make the western mountains the barrier of our war.

The subject is delicate, and I have been careful in the course of these papers to keep out of view the low state of our affairs both at home and abroad at the time when the happy news of the alliance was announced to us. But certainly it was low enough, and in the designs of providence sufficient to make that great event joyful to the whole continent. I had hinted in a former paper, where I found it in my way to touch upon this subject, that it "might be possible I had too much depressed the situation of America, and advanced the interposition of the court of France." But from a review of the circumstances, and from the opinion of others on the subject, I am now confident, that so far have I been from heightening our distress, that I have by no means drawn it to the life in my description. I remember well that such was the situation of the army, while they lay at the Valley-Forge in the winter of the year 1778, destitute of cloathing, many times in want of provisions, and greatly discouraged, that a member of congress who had been on a committee to the camp to new model the troops with the advice of general Washington, declared to me, that "such had been the state of things that nothing but the great virtues of that man had kept the army together." The annunciation of the alliance kindled up every hope, and restored our affairs both at home and abroad to new vigour. Having thus far digressed, I return to the line of thought I had taken up in the beginning of this paper, and shall go on to shew, that in the treaty which we now have before us there is "the most perfect equality and reciprocity" for the "broad basis" of it.

We have seen that it was not possible for France to receive from Britain any stipulation to secure her neutrality, because she would thereby draw upon herself the jealousy of other powers who would disturb that peace which it is her great object to maintain. For the same reason it was not possible for France to accept, from America, any exclusive privilege of commerce; for this also would draw upon her the jealousy of other powers, who, though they had not contributed in the least degree to establish our independence, yet, such is the nature of the human heart, would see no reason why they ought not to share fully in the great advantages to be drawn from it.

But, it was not the will of France to confine any part of the trade of America to her shores, nor to impose upon that trade any inequality of duties or of customs to be paid at her ports; for she well knew that however readily the people of America, if greatly oppressed, might concede articles of that kind, and however kindly they might submit to it while a sense of the benefits they had received lay upon their minds, and kept them soft and pliant; yet the heart of man is prone to forget favours, and they would, after some time, desire to throw off all restraint, and be free in every path upon the water, as they were already free in every law upon the land. We see, therefore, from the present treaty, that we are not under obligation to send to France a single article of the commerce of this country; and the vessel which, led by the prospect of advantage, shall sail to her ports, is not under obligation to pay a single duty, impost, or custom which the most "favoured nations do not pay." But the "most favoured nations" sailing to the ports of France, are exempted from duties, and therefore the states of America, in the ports of France, are exempted from duties which other nations are obliged to pay. Indeed, as a great part of the revenue of the crown is drawn from the duties upon commerce, it is impossible to dispense with the payment of a duty wholly, and in all cases whatsoever; but such has been the condescension of the nation in the treaty with America, that one port is given where no duty shall be paid; and what is an evidence that it does not repent her of that circumstance in our favour, she has added more than we could claim by the treaty, and has given us one or two free ports besides Marseilles; and has it even in contemplation to grant two others for our conveniency of commerce in the western seas. But, every article relative to commerce between France and these states, is secured from all possible charge of inequality, by the circumstance that there is no duty which the "most favoured nations" are obliged to pay, and which America shall pay, but "it is understood that the United States, or any of them, are at liberty, when they shall judge it proper, to establish a duty equivalent in the same case."*

What were it to the purpose if we were under the necessity of paying some duty in every port of France? We have not bound ourselves by the treaty to carry to that kingdom, or to take from it any article but what we please to carry to it or to take from it. So far from this, that without exacting the least engagement of this nature, she has undertaken to guarantee the freedom of our trade to all nations. Indeed, if in the original compact, there is no restriction of our trade in any of its branches to her shores, as was the case in the whole of our commerce in our connection with Great-Britain, there is no danger but that for her own sake, France will give every freedom, and every encouragement to America in trade, that she can possibly afford to any people whatsoever.

We see then that with regard to commerce, no advantage has been taken, as a recompence for any service rendered in the establishment of these states. As to imports and duties, there are none to pay; or we are equal in our right to impose them, and if an armed vessel of the states is obliged to take under its protection the vessels and effects of his Most Christian Majesty, so "the armed vessels of his Most Christian Majesty shall, on all occasions, take under their protection all vessels belonging to the subjects, people, or inhabitants of the United States, or any of them, and holding the same course, and going the same way; and shall defend such vessels as long as they hold the same course, or go the same way, against all attacks, force or violence, in the

* *Article* V.

same manner as they ought to protect and defend the veſſels belonging to the ſubjects of the Moſt Chriſtian King." In this we have greatly, and manifeſtly the advantage. For whereas our naval force is ſmall, we can do very little, for many years, to protect the trade of France, while, on the other hand, the fleets of this nation are ſpread over every ſea. Our merchantmen will fall in with them, and will ſail under their protection from Cape-Horn to the fiſheries of Newfoundland; from the Baltic to the Cape of Good-Hope, and from the Cape of Good-Hope to the Eaſt Indies.

It has been already ſaid that France might reaſonably have demanded a ſubſidy of theſe ſtates for the expences which ſhe might incur on their account. It is true, it was her intereſt that we ſhould be diſconnected with Great-britain; but it was not her intereſt ſo ſtrongly, and ſo eſſentially as it was ours. It was neceſſary for her ſafety, but it was neceſſary for our exiſtence. She could not live in peace without it; we could not live at all. It was then reaſonable, that, if ſhe put her navy, and the ſtrength of her kingdom to a preſent riſk, we ſhould contribute, at a future day, ſomething in return for this generous exertion. But France would not ſuffer that the leaſt idea of a ſubſidy ſhould be ever placed before our minds. We ſhould not pay a ſingle Louis d'Or for her ſervice. It is expreſſly ſtipulated by the ninth article "that there ſhall be no after claim of compenſation on one ſide or the other, whatever may be the event of the war." †

France well knew that a ſubſidy, however reaſonable it might appear, and however eaſily received, would at length wear the feelings of the people, and cauſe them after ſome time, to wiſh they had it not to pay. With a ſpirit of true philoſophy and reaſon, France, therefore eaſily neglected the mention of any thing of this kind, and there is now, in all articles relative to commerce, the moſt perfect equality in the conditions of the compact of our alliance.

With regard to territory we do not grant to France one foot claimed or poſſeſſed by us, nor do we engage to guarantee one foot claimed or poſſeſſed by others on the continent, and which in the courſe of the war ſhe might be able to reduce. On the contrary, ſhe has ceded by the treaty, the whole of what before had been called Britiſh America, to ſome part of which, as it had been wreſted from her, ſhe had a juſt claim, ſhe not only cedes, to theſe ſtates, Canada, and Nova-Scotia, and the Floridas, but ſhe engages to guarantee theſe poſſeſſions. For, "if we ſhall think fit to attempt the reduction of the Britiſh power remaining in the northern parts of America, or the iſland of Bermudas, thoſe countries, or iſlands, in caſe of ſucceſs, ſhall be confederated with, or dependent upon the United States." ‡

In return for this, what do we guarantee to France? Her Weſt-India iſlands only; and this for our own advantage. For, as we cannot yet hold one Weſt-India iſland by our fleets, it is our intereſt, that they be held by thoſe who are our allies, and from whom we can receive from the free ports every article of commerce without duty, import, or cuſtom, more than we are at liberty to eſtabliſh in like caſe upon articles exported from the continent to theſe iſlands.

Do not we guarantee to France her poſſeſſions on the continent of Europe? By no means. She may be at war ten ages on that ſide of the Atlantic ocean, and we may know no more about it, and hear no more of it than we do of the ruſtling of the wind over ſome diſtant country. We may hear of the wars that ſhall ariſe, but the ſound of them ſhall paſs above us, and but give us to know the happineſs of that tranquillity which we enjoy. Here then is the caſe. On every invaſion of our territory, in every war in which we are engaged with a foreign power, France has bound herſelf to aſſiſt and defend our country. In any war in which ſhe may be engaged, unleſs on account of her Weſt-India iſlands, which it is our intereſt to preſerve, and ſecure for her, we have no concern whatſoever.

In theſe reſpects, ſhall I call the treaty equal? It is manifeſtly unequal, and the balance of advantage is in favour of theſe ſtates. When I conſider theſe things, I am ready to pronounce the councils of the French court worthy every praiſe. Her generoſity has far exceeded what we uſually obſerve in the conduct of individuals who are led by perſonal attachment to favour the objects of their kindneſs. More has not been done by any nation to another ſince the world began.

† *Treaty of alliance article* IX.
‡ *Treaty of alliance article* V.

Aſſiſtance has been given, but on ſuch terms as to take away all obligation. Here alone we have been aſſiſtance given, and the terms on which it is given, but conditions of advantage to the people to aſſiſted. Great-Britain was not equally generous in the aſſiſtance which under Elizabeth ſhe gave to the ſtates of Holland. Though greatly apprehenſive of the power of Spain, and in the ſame ſituation with regard to that monarchy, as was France, at the commencement of this war with regard to England, yet ſhe did not candidly acknowledge it, but, in conſenting to ſend aſſiſtance, ſhe kept out of view every idea of any intereſt of her own, and deſerting that equality of terms which the common danger ſhould have taught her to propoſe, ſhe exacted in the treaty an article "that her expences ſhould be refunded after the concluſion of the war, and that the towns of Fluſhing, and the Brille, with the caſtle of Rammekins ſhould, in the mean time, be conſigned into her hands by way of ſecurity." ‖ Nay the ſuffering and invaded ſtates, in order to engage her ſtill more to their intereſt, thought it neceſſary to compliment her by conferring on her general the earl of Leiceſter, whom ſhe had ſent over, though but a weak man, the command of their forces; and what marks the policy of courts at that time, the queen, as this was done without her requeſt, took advantage of the circumſtance, and that ſhe might not ſeem to be under any obligation, on account of it, greatly blamed the ſtates as having done that which was by no means agreeable. If we contraſt this conduct with that of France in all her proceedings with regard to us, we ſhall perceive a very wide difference. She has not pretended "that ſhe acted wholly for our ſakes." She has not, in one inſtance ſhewed a diſpoſition to advance her ſervices, or to make more of them than they would bear. This ought to inſpire us with the greater love, and to cauſe us to embrace her with the more true and ſincere affection. It ought to be the language of every American in the words of the poet,

——— *ob hoc nunc*
Laus illi debetur, et a me gratia major.

I will conclude what I have to ſay at the preſent time on the articles of this treaty by obſerving, that it is a proof demonſtrative of its fairneſs and equality that our enemies themſelves have not been able to find out any thing on which to ground a charge of unfairneſs, inequality, or inſidiouſneſs. They have declared France inſidious, but, to make good the charge, their ambaſſador * who ſhould be beſt acquainted with any circumſtance of this kind, was brought by miniſterial influence to cover himſelf and them with eternal ſhame, in aſſerting in open parliament that there was a ſecret treaty different from that which was publiſhed, while this pretended ſecret treaty has no exiſtence, not even in the minds of thoſe who have given birth to the ſurmiſe. There cannot be a ſtronger evidence that the treaties which actually exiſt afford to them not the leaſt ground of charge, than that they have been under the neceſſity of ſuppoſing ſome ſecret ones which might be ſo chargeable.

THE HONEST POLITICIAN.

‖ *Hume.* * *Stormont.*

NOTICE is hereby given, that the inhabitants of Prince-George's pariſh (lying in Prince-George's and Montgomery counties) intend to offer a petition to the general aſſembly of this ſtate, praying a diviſion of the ſaid pariſh.

10X

Annapolis, November 16, 1779.

THE COMMITTEE of GRIEVANCES and COURTS of JUSTICE will ſit to do buſineſs in the committee-room, every day, from eleven in the forenoon till four in the afternoon, during the preſent ſeſſion of the general aſſembly.

Signed by order of the committee,
W. H. M'PHERSON, clerk.

4

Annapolis, October 22, 1779.

FOR SALE,

THE UNITED STATES LOTTERY TICKETS in the third claſs. Theſe go off very rapidly, from the advantage to the adventurer in this claſs compared with the preceding ones: the holders therefore of tickets in the ſecond claſs, who purchaſed of the ſubſcriber, being entitled to pre-emption on this, are requeſted to be ſpeedy in their application to renew, otherwiſe they will be diſpoſed of to others.

tf JOHN DAVIDSON.

16

ONE HUNDRED POUNDS REWARD.

Bedford county, Pennſylvania, Nov. 10, 1779.

RAN away from the ſubſcriber, the beginning of May laſt, a negro man named JACOB, about 30 years of age, about 5 feet 5 inches high, has a remarkable large bald head. I have heard he was in Baltimore gaol the end of the ſummer; he was taken out by one Richard Brown, from whom he made his eſcape; he has ſince been in Baltimore and hired for 5 months with Peter Steele; he left him the 1ſt inſt. and ſtole from him 2 holland ſhirts marked P. S. with a ſlit in the guſſet, 2 odd ſilk ſtockings, 1 plain, 3 pocket handkerchiefs, 1 pair of boots, 1 pair of childrens ſhoe buckles, a ſtock marked G. W. Whoever will take up the ſaid negro, or ſecure him in any gaol, ſo that his maſter may get him again, ſhall have the above reward paid by

3X SAMUEL EWATT.

STATE OF NEW-JERSEY.

Houſe of aſſembly, June 11, 1779.

WHEREAS the legiſlature of this ſtate hath paſſed an act for calling out of circulation, and for ſinking all bills of credit heretofore emitted in this ſtate, whilſt the ſame was a colony; in and by which it is enacted, that all bills of credit emitted by law, and likewiſe all thoſe emitted by an ordinance of the late provincial congreſs of this ſtate, ſhall be brought into the treaſury to be exchanged on or before the firſt day of January next; and that all thoſe bills which ſhall not be ſo brought in on or before that day, ſhall be for ever after irredeemable.

And whereas many of the ſaid bills may be in the hands of perſons reſiding in the neighbouring ſtates, which, unleſs timely notice be given, may not be brought in within the time limited, to the great injury of the poſſeſſors: to prevent which,

Reſolved, 3

That the printers of public news-papers in this and the neighbouring ſtates, be requeſted to inſert the above extracts from the ſaid law, in their papers, and continue the ſame at leaſt four weeks, for the information of all perſons concerned.

THE ſubſcriber wants a number of COARSE SHOES made, for which good wages will be given; ſhoemakers may take them out in quantities.

A CURRIER will meet with encouragement by applying to

WILLIAM GOLDSMITH.

Of whom a good price may be had for coarſe thoe thread.

tf

October 2, 1779.

WHEREAS the late Joſeph Milburn Simms, late of Charles county, deceaſed, did by deed, about the year of our Lord 1748, for a valuable conſideration, then in hand paid, bargain and ſell unto the late Edward Goodrick, late of the ſame county, deceaſed, and his heirs, in fee ſimple, ſeventy-five acres of land, called Lyne's Delight, who was immediately put in and enjoyed the quiet poſſeſſion of the ſame till his death; which after deſcended to the ſubſcriber, as his heir at law, who hath ever ſince, and now has, peaceable and quiet poſſeſſion of the ſame: but the ſaid lands, by the neglect of the parties, were never properly acknowledged according to law, though the ſaid Joſeph Milburn Simms deſired it ſhould be on his death-bed, for the benefit of the lawful heirs of the ſaid Edward Goodrick. In conſequence of ſuch omiſſion, the ſubſcriber, on coming to the poſſeſſion of the ſaid lands, applied by letter to Joſeph Simmes, the lawful heir of the ſaid Joſeph Milburn Simms, then in France, who ſent over a proper deed and power annexed, attended with neceſſary affidavits, taken before the right honourable William Beckford, Eſq; then lord-mayor of the city of London, under the great ſeal of that city, which were brought over and delivered to the ſubſcriber by captain John Montgomery and James Campbell, who ſoon after ſailed, before making the proper affidavit the laws of this province in ſuch caſes require, as the ſubſcriber is ſince informed.

I therefore give this public notice, that I intend to petition our general aſſembly, at their next ſeſſion, for their interpoſition and authority to eſtabliſh and perpetuate my right and title to the ſaid land and premiſes.

w8 CHARLES GOODRICK.

ALMANACKS, for the year of our Lord 1780, to be ſold at the Printing-Office.

6

ANNAPOLIS: Printed by FREDERICK and SAMUEL GREEN, at the Poſt-Office in Church-Street.